THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

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THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,

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[From the Atlantic for July.]

THE ALAMO-SELL OF ATRI.

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

At Atri, in Abruzzo, a small town
Of ancient Roman date, but scant renown,
Not many years ago, the public square,
Half up the hill, beneath a scarp, was laid,
And rude and mean its aspect and its shade,
Save that one spreading chestnut-tree was there.
Yet the town-fathers, grave and slow of speech,
Were not unmindful of its future reach
Through centuries to come, for under it
Was market held, and the canny dames
Came there in throngs with their domestic wares,
And chaffered in the shade, and made their game,
Wool, yarn, and linen, web and garment new,
Or carthen pipkin for the cook's despair,
And all the spicy herbs that scent the air.
And yet this restful place of general barter
Was stirred sometimes by strife and angry words;
Hot disputations rose, and oaths and curses,
And then the brawlers fell to fisticuffs,
Bandied their mallets, drew their knives in fury,
Till the whole square with the shouting rang,
And the old men sitting in the gate of peace
Looked up and said, "It is some drunken frays
Or some vendetta of the days gone by."
Their sires had told them so, and they their sires.
Such was the immemorial use and wont,
Until the good Podesta, Tommaso,
Whose memory lives enshrined in human hearts,
Built round the chestnut-tree a bench of stone.
There sat he as in state, and heard and judged
Causes of little moment, parish strifes,
Applied the remedy, and healed the feud.
And when he died, and long years after him
The bench remained, though crumbled and effaced,
Nor any one remembered who he was
That built it, nor his name, nor his renown,
Yet still the bench remained, and was called
The Seat of Justice, and in sooth it was;
For justice sat there when it sat nowhere else.
Now in the public square of Atri town
Stands a bronze horse with arching neck and limbs
Built up of iron bars, and not of stone,
That seem to spurn the earth in their affright
At the sudden rearing of the steed behind,
Who with his forefeet in the air, and head
Turned backward, snuffing at the approaching wind,
Looks fiercely round him, and his tossing mane
Floats like a flag in battle or a plume.
And on his back, with brow elate and firm,
Sits the young knight, in armor clad, and bears
Upon his helmet for device a sword
Warding a falling tower. Fame in her flight
Blows her double trumpet, and sounds his praise
And that of Atri in the market-place.
Many years passed, and he returned no more.
But often in the battle's heat and storm,
Or in the antechamber of the king,
Or in the camp at night when round the fire
Gleamed the piled arms and pavilions white,
Or heard at midnight the alarum bell
Ringing from distant watch-tower on the hill,
Or saw at sea the drifting corpse of some
Unburied sailor, tossed by wind and wave,
He thought of Atri and the days that were
Bright with the sunshine of his native skies,
And with the memory of his father's house,
And of the people standing in the square.
Meanwhile the generations came and went,
Trampling the pavement of the market-place
With hurrying feet, and in mid-air aloft
The bronze horse reared, and shook his bridled head,
And champed his bit, and tossed his mane in scorn,
And struck the air and stamped his silver shoes,
But the brave rider sat immovable,
Nor checked the steed, nor lifted his closed hand
From the tight bridle resting on his thigh.
Full many a knight, with lance in rest, had ridden
Beneath the gateway of the Seat of Justice,
And heard above him in the air aloft
The sword suspended, and the voice that said:
"Take heed how you administer the laws,
But most how you administer the laws
Against the powerful, lest you become
Like unto those whom you condemn to death."
Whereupon answered they, and with a smile
Passed on, "Fear nothing; we are innocent."
Many supplicants came and went forever
Through the great gateway, some in hope, and some
With blank despair, and some in secret shame,
But never one in anger, save the knight
Who, having unjustly sentenced a churl to death,
Met in the passage-way the stern rebuke:
"Take heed how you administer the laws,
But most how you administer the laws
Against the powerful, lest you become
Like unto those whom you condemn to death."
Whereupon answered he, and with a frown
Passed on, "Fear nothing; I am innocent."
But he was wrong, for soon a heavy hand
Was laid upon his shoulder, and a voice
Said in his ear, "Thou art my prisoner!"
And looking round, he saw two men in mail
Behind him and the market-place all filled
With armed men, who hemmed in all the doors
And windows of the houses round about.
Then said he unto the man who touched him last:
"Who art thou, friend, that layest hands upon me?"
And he replied, "Thou knowest me well.
I am the common executioner."
Then fell the knight down on his knees and prayed:
"Grant me a little space for confession."
But he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that never can be granted
Space for confession till the hour comes."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To send my servant home to my castle
That he may tell my kinsmen what has chanced."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To write a letter to the Emperor
That he may know the innocent have died."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the prayer that special grace obtains."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To kiss the hand of my beloved wife."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To bless my children ere I leave them orphans."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Ave Maria on my beads."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Lord's Prayer with you."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Creed."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Miserere."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Paternoster."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Credo."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Angelus."
And he replied, "Nay, nay, my friend and master,
Thou knowest well that cannot be granted."
Then said the knight: "Grant me a little space
To say the Lord have mercy on my soul

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1870.

Who starts the personal slanders on General GRANT? Of course we do not mean those with the well-known New York scandal factory attached; but rumors and reports, some of which find their way into respectable papers, while others are headed around from mouth to mouth. Is some secret enemy, disguised as a friend, doing this sort of thing? Is it a plan invented for ruining the President with the American people? It is more than suspected that such a design really does exist; that injurious reports are put afloat, that traps are set and schemes devised for giving color to rumor—and by whom? We will just say that the true friends of General GRANT are having their attention considerably fixed in a quarter entirely capable of such things. The danger is respectable man, with the dignity of position to preserve, runs in ever associating with or accepting courtesies from unscrupulous and vulgar people, is that they will boast of the association, magnify the influence it confers on them, and probably indulge in downright falsehoods concerning what is said and done. If they happen not to be real friends, but capable of deception and conspiracy, then the chances are that social and private intercourse becomes but the opportunity for the gratification of concealed malice. For instance, if the President should be invited to a gentleman's house, where, in violation of every principle of good breeding and decency, gambling tables or other things objectionable were introduced, and notorious characters made equals with the other guests, and if the circumstance were afterward to be twisted and turned so as to make it seem that the President preferred such company, would the host on such an occasion be put down as a fool or knave? Either a fool to think such a thing was true hospitality and a proper manifestation of friendship, or a knave capable of conspiring to the injury of his guest, knowing what must be the effect. Whether knave or fool, the verdict would depend on the recognized standing of the person to which it would relate for sense and honor. Is it possible that some such thing as this is true of Gen. GRANT? Do the injurious reports, such as those relating to a life insurance policy, which have lost no weight into the papers, and others that have not yet done so, proceed from some such source as this—manufactured to order—distortions of slight circumstances—magnified results of traps regularly set to catch material for slanders? Certainly enough is afloat to justify the query by the sincere friends of the President.

We are in receipt of letters from different parts of the State warmly applauding the action of the True Republicans of Allegheny, with the view of bringing into the field such a ticket as the whole party can support. The bondage to which the Republicans of Allegheny have for years been subjected is well understood over the State. And it has long been a matter of surprise that they should so tamely submit to it, while their great interests were being neglected or made the merchandise of politicians who knew no higher sense of duty than loyalty to SIMON CAMERON. The tame manner in which this has been submitted to has long been the wonder of the State. And well may this be the case; for with not one-fifth of the voters sympathizing with him, CAMERON has ruled the politics of the county. But for him a citizen of Allegheny could not occupy a seat in the United States Senate. There can be nothing truer than this. That the Republicans of Allegheny should have taken the party into their own hands, leaving the CAMERON ring leaders to bolt or not as best suits their purposes, has elicited many congratulations from different parts of the State. With these congratulations are mingled many encouraging words and promises of co-operation from quarters where the same description of tyranny is felt. The fact is, the movement of the True Republicans of Allegheny challenges the approval of the correct sentiment of the party not only at home, but of the entire State. One leading Republican writes us: "The stand has been nobly taken, and I cannot too highly applaud the courage of the COMMERCIAL in giving it its powerful influence. We look to your county for the first successful step that will emancipate the State from the tyranny and corrupting influence of CAMERON." These in substance are the words of cheer from many quarters of the State.

—To the True Republicans of Allegheny, therefore, we say you will not fight your battle alone. The Republicans of the State are with you, and pray for your success.

SEVERAL days have elapsed since the "organ" has said anything about the "wheips" it promised to "kick into outer darkness" for engaging in the True Republican Movement. Has it given it up as a bad job?

MR. Alexander H. Stephens, in the second volume of his History of the War, says in regard to chief officers of the Confederacy:

Toombs was to have been chosen President, but failed through a singular misapprehension on the part of Howell Cobb, who, it is said, misunderstood a dispatch that he refused to have his name put for ward. It was in reference to this dispatch that the letter concerning Howell Cobb being the choice of Georgia, which was published in the Washington Chronicle, and drew forth Jefferson Davis' withering rebuke, and which resulted in the Vice-Presidency for Mr. Stephens.

To this, Mr. Alexander H. Clayton responds that the dispatch was misunderstood by Cobb, and says the mistake occurs through the recklessness of the historian. It seems to us, however, that there is room for Mr. Clayton to file his bond, and the duty on this point.

JACOB KNOLL, a Cincinnati broker, was married some three years since. Finding remunerative employment hard to obtain in that city, he started for California. He proceeded on the Pacific coast and went for his wife, but she refused to join him. He returned a few days since and found her living with another man, at the Kentucky end of the Suspension bridge. On Sunday evening he called upon her. When high words had passed, Knoll ended the disagreeable affair by shooting his wife through the heart. He then shot himself. He is not expected to recover.

There is a fortune (says the Baltimore *Evening Bulletin*) for the man who shall have the enterprise to establish a cheap restaurant, and give his customers good, substantial meals of wholesome, well-cooked food. These are institutions much needed at the present time. They have been in the European capitals, and particularly in Paris, where meat and vegetables are not as cheap as they are in Baltimore, although rents may be somewhat cheaper and labor less. What, as stated above, is true of Baltimore is equally true of Philadelphia and New York. He is the man who knows how to make a fortune by supplying the want described!

The *Irish Republic*, of New York, concludes an article on Senator Nesbit as follows:

> Hon. James S. Negley in the House is still the same as when at the head of the Pennsylvania Reserves, in the South.
>
> "Hot, fiery and true."

and we trust that the Democratic wards will rally around his protective standard as they did around the old battle worn banners of the old Reserves.

Without doubt the following is an abstract from the same won by General Negley, in the field, we will say that he was never at "the head of the Pennsylvania Reserves," or connected in any manner with that organization.

LADY AMBERLEY, who married a son of Earl Russell, has taken the platform in favor of woman's suffrage. She gives her views on a platform, which is broad enough and good enough for all women to stand upon:

1. Educational equality for women.
2. Legal protection for married women.
3. The same individual rights to hold property as men.
4. Women the proper guardians of their children.
5. Women suffrage and social equality.
6. No legal subordination in marriage.
7. Equal wages for equal work.

GENERAL NEGLEY, our Representative in Congress, gave an entertainment to several members of Congress and others, at the Arlington House, Washington, a few evenings ago. It was one of those "high old times," the General is much complimented on the [illegible] on the entertainment was served, style in which [illegible] of the wines, and the manner the General [illegible] to enjoyed his liberal hospitality.

This paper contains a great deal about the whirlpool in the Niagara. The escape of a particulars are published at [illegible] such a vessel which came near being doubtless to fearful enough, the only parallel case of movements of the kind on the Susquehanna, and on Allegheny, which has created a whirlpool dreadful to the Ring as the Utah affair is the navigators of the great Salt Lake.

It is said that the protracted investigation of the charges made by Fernando Wood against General Howard are nearly ready to report. There will be two reports—one completely vindicating him, signed by seven members of the committee; another, of an opposite character, by the two Democratic members of the Committee.

It is asserted that Mr. Sumner is incensed at General Grant because of the contemplated removal of Mr. Motley, and will take an early occasion to give expression to his feelings. It is not improbable that the latter organ will keep up with the Motley business to displease Mr. Sumner.

The recalled Revenue Reformers concede that they have come to grief so far as Mr. WELLS is concerned. The President has given them to understand that under no circumstances will he continue him in his present position, and so they have given up trying to get through a bill creating the office two years longer. For taking this stand, General GRANT just at present is enjoying the luxury of being savagely denounced as a Protectionist; and Secretary BOUTWELL comes in for his share of this description of argument by the reformers. One would suppose from them that neither the President nor the Secretary should think of disagreeing with Mr. WELLS, who, in their estimation, is the only one in the country capable of correct ideas on the question of revenue. There certainly is something remarkable in the situation of affairs regarding this gentleman, especially in the admiration and zealous support of foreign manufacturers seeking the control of our markets. This class and their agents have systematically undertaken the task of framing our revenue policy, of setting Mr. WELLS up as superior authority on the subject, and of slandering Gen. GRANT'S administration. It is charged, and not denied, that to create a fictitious sentiment they have secured the services of leading Republican papers in certain cities. Some of these papers were once for Protection, as was Mr. WELLS, and it is unfortunate for him as a pure man that paid advocates praise him. Whatever influence may have operated in these quarters, it is certain that it caused when Gen. GRANT and Secretary BOUTWELL were reached; and Mr. WELLS immediately went under.

—LORD CLARENDON, whose death was announced yesterday in the cable dispatches, has long been prominent in the politics of Great Britain, uniting in his person all the advantages that give influence there. He represented the illustrious Earl of CLARENDON who wrote the History of the Rebellion, and acted so conspicuous a part in the events which he afterwards recorded. Before 1858 the deceased was known as Mr. VILLIERS, and as one of the most industriously laborious members of the civil service. Associated with Doctor BOWRING, he drew up a famous Report on the Commercial Relations between France and England. He succeeded to the title in 1858, and from 1847 to 1852 he was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He was born in 1800. Whoever has been a reader of the English newspapers and of the political articles in the *Revieuws*, remembers with what exceptional respect even political opponents were accustomed to mention or allude to him, a circumstance to be referred to his high character and brilliant abilities, as well as to his exalted birth.

More than one New York paper charges that the scheme for obtaining a life policy for General GRANT originated with the Equitable Company, to bring itself conspicuously before the country. General PORTER states that it was proposed to him as a member of General GRANT'S official family, and that it was instantly rejected, notwithstanding which rebuff the agent of the Company, it is said, visited parties under obligations to General GRANT and represented that he was desirous of having the thing done. The Company equivocates, and fails to do justice to General GRANT and members of his household. It is due to its own reputation that a complete statement of all the facts be made. Only enough is known to render it certain that an attempt was made to carry the scheme into execution, that Gen. PORTER was approached and subscriptions solicited from others. Let the officers of the Company be just to Gen. PORTER, and publish his reply and what other facts are necessary to place the responsibility of the affair where it should rest.

JUDGE MCCANDLESS, of the District Court of the United States, now sitting in Williamsport, has delivered an important decision as to the liability of market gardeners to pay license as brokers. The decision was in the case of a man near Williamsport, who cultivated forty acres of land, the product of which he sold in that city without a license. The decision of the court is that he must take out a license to do so. This case was brought before the court more for the purpose of making a test case than to punish the defendant, and Judge MCCANDLESS appears to have given it a careful consideration and a clear exposition of the law on the subject. Under Judge MCCANDLESS'S view of the law, every farmer who goes to market and sells the product of his farm will be required to take out a government license.

THE best evidence of the overwhelming strength of the True Republican movement is the fact that "set up" candidates of the ring, one after the other, are coming to the conclusion to withdraw. They have suddenly found out that it is not a good year for them to take their chances. Never was a revelation so sudden or convincing. It is creditable to the discernment of the gentlemen that they perceive the situation and make haste to get out of the way.

SEVERAL days have elapsed since the "organ" has said anything about the "wheips" it promised to "kick into outer darkness" for engaging in the True Republican Movement. Has it given it up as a bad job?

RESPONSE FROM HUNTINGDON.

The Key-Note of the True Republicans of Allegheny Taken Up.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HUNTINGDON, PA., June 28, 1870.

The Republicans of Huntingdon read with thrilling interest the address of the "Independent" Republicans to their brethren of Allegheny county.

"The time has come for a reform of our party organization," not only in Allegheny county, but all through the State, if the party organization is to be maintained in the ascendancy. The address of the "True Republicans" is as truthful as it is eloquent and beautiful. It is the key-note for reform, which will spread from the Allegheny to the Delaware. The names attached to the call are sure guarantee of its complete and enthusiastic success.

The appeal of the youthful Parvinace to "the Republican voters of Allegheny county," is a weak piece of arrogant assumption on the part of this headstrong youth, which the non-office-holding and office-seeking men of Allegheny, firm in the Republican faith, but who war against corruption in either high or low places, will severely rebuke. We well remember, even at this distance, that it was through the mismanagement or treachery, or both, of the present Chairman of your Executive Committee, and his owners, that your majority was reduced full one-half last fall. And yet, on the very eve of the election, he assured the writer of this (who was on a brief visit to Pittsburgh) that he had finished his work in every election district in the city and county, and that Geary's majority in Allegheny would not be less than *eighty-five hundred*. Did the RESIDENT Chairman not know any better? or is he one of a corrupt ring of your county, that recognizes fidelity in the person of its appointees, but thoroughly corrupt United States Senator from this State, and which Ring determined to strike down Geary because they could not use him?

The Democratic politicians of Pennsylvania wait with anxious hearts, and watch with earnest solicitude for the result of the convention of July 6.

A REPUBLICAN OF HUNTINGDON.

OUR DESERT REGIONS.

Assumed Physical Changes—Is It Not a Mistaken Theory?

Very intelligent men sometimes enunciate general conclusions based on a few facts or on a single circumstance, which will not stand the test of experience. We are inclined to think that among these may be placed the lately noticed "Physical Changes in the Great American Desert." The theory on the subject, without being distinctly asserted, appears to be, that the rains which fall on the west side of the road, or to both, the streams now contain more water than they did before. Instances of streams that were either dry, or nearly dry, and which now have a good supply of water; and the gradual rise of Salt Lake for some years past, are mentioned as evidences of a change in the climate which must affect permanently the nature of the soil hitherto considered worthless, and of its arid character. Let us admit the fact that the streams have one-fourth more water in them than they had a few years ago, and that Salt Lake is seven feet higher than it was a few years ago, and these changes are the result of causes such as the idea that the theorizers would convey? The variations in the quantity of water flowing in our streams in the East from year to year are quite remarkable. Observations in portions of years in the height of Lake Erie amount to several feet, and prevailing winds, up or down, affect the height several feet.

In order to have more water flowing in the Rocky Mountain streams, there must be an increase of rain or of snows preceding the phenomenon on the mountains; but the periods and manner in which these occur are very different from those in the East, and in the latter must cause a corresponding difference in the flow of water along the streams. Two or more years consecutively of drought will be followed by a diminished flow, while two or more years of unusual rain and snow will be followed by an abundant flow.

In the case of Salt Lake, there is one peculiar feature, namely, that although many streams flow into it, it has no flow from it to the Atlantic; the only outlet being heavenward, by evaporation.

The writer of this article visited Salt Lake land Great Basin through the Territories of Utah and Montana Territories, making very particular observations; not enough it is true to warrant the putting forth of any such extensive generalization as that now under consideration, but the confirmation of or other and yet quite enough to warrant a doubt as to the correctness of the conclusions assumed.

All through Montana Territory, and the Northern parts of Utah, the streams which were by universal consent considered to be lower than the oldest white residents had ever known them to be during any previous summer. Intelligent gentlemen in Montana, capable of judging, thought the same concerning the writer that but for the *extraordinary drought* there would have been probably nine millions more gold obtained in the gold regions of Montana.

It would seem as if there must have been more rain or snow, or both, in the Southern portion of Utah and in the immediate region flowing into Salt Lake, and perhaps less evaporation than usual, to have the confluents or other and less than seventeen hundred square miles, its surface height regulated largely by means of evaporation, in connection with a very irregular flow from the streams. Also that over such a large area of country, would naturally present considerable differences of level at different periods. Last summer, Salt Lake was high; and all the testimony around it concurred in the statement that it was from two to three feet higher than it was a few years ago; yet there were evidences plainly observable that it had once or perhaps many times been still higher, so that nothing but the fluctuations was proved.

At some seasons of the year pebbles from the surface of Salt Lake during the hottest part of the season may be half an inch per day; so that at such times if the tributaries were to cease to flow, the lake would in a few months or days. A difference in the rate of evaporation in different seasons of one-fourth of an inch per day, would only require forty-eight days to cause a difference of level in the lake of one foot. The writer has known in many instances over, up silently endure the terrible secret; while the one hundred months over the fruitful hills while the sky was brass and the earth iron beneath. Thus, we have endeavored to explain our theory of the cause of the phenomenon. It is candidly submitted to the consideration of the public for their candid consideration. If it is not the true theory, it is at least as reasonable as many that have been advanced. Should it be found to be erroneous, we will be glad to be corrected.

W.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, June 27, 1870.

Titusville and Oil Creek Townships give one hundred and seventeen majority for Anderson. Meadville goes about two hundred majority for Delamater. The returns come in slowly, but it is thought Anderson is safe.

W.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., June 28, 1870.

Gen. James Potts has just been unanimously nominated for the Legislature by the people's convention.

J. T. S.

PHILADELPHIA, June 28.—The following are the Democratic Congressional nominations: First District, Samuel J. Randall; Second District, Hopkins; Third District, Wm. D. Kelley; Fourth District, Wm. McMullen; Fifth District, Col. S. B. Dick, of Meadville, publishes a card, in which he says: "I understand that papers have been, or will be circulated by certain parties, for me to sign, in favor of a Democratic Congressional ticket, for the purpose of throwing the county to Mr. Gilfillan, and that verbal statements have been made that I would sign such a paper. I am not aware that any such paper is in circulation throughout the county. These statements have been made without authority, and I am honored with the support of this county. I will use every effort in my power to secure a Republican in the District Conference for myself."

A correspondent of the Harrisburg *Telegraph* says that Col. Wm. H. Armstrong is dead.

On Friday Col. Wm. B. Thomas received an independent nomination for Congress in the Fourth District, which was accepted by him in a letter in which he declines to withdraw.

There are numerous aspirants among the Democrats of Center county for the Senatorial nomination. The following have already announced themselves as candidates: Hon. Wm. A. Wallace, C. T. Alexander, S. T. Shugert, Wm. F. Reynolds, P. Gray Meek, Wm. H. Blair, Hon. John H. Orvis, and Dr. Getting.

Following is the ticket nominated by the Democrats in Clarion county on Monday last: Sheriff—Samuel Johnson. Commissioner—Daniel Shaffer. Treasurer—Edward Hoffman. Commissioner—Thomas A. Brinkley. The usual "white man's party" resolutions were adopted.

Says the Philadelphia *Post*: "About the nominations what shall we say? Have we not already sufficiently condemned the infamous proceedings of the Ring? We have concentrated and called attention to those candidates who were peculiarly, and of necessity, objectionable. We have left out Geary, and his unqualified opposition to impure, inefficient and corrupt candidates. We have taken that position as the only one left for us. We have his position as the only one left for us. We have his position what they may, who is himself incontestably the choice of the people, and who will again and administer. The success of Republican principles depends upon inherent justice. The Democratic party, as a party, is solid and corrupt men are to be put forward as its candidates, the Republican party cannot expect to rule."

The Republican primary election in Somerset county resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen as candidates for the offices indicated: Congress, Hon. John Cessna; Assembly, W. H. Sanner; Commissioner, Mr. Hoffman; Treasurer, Mr. Lichty; Auditor, Mr. Mauer, Somerset and Fulton have now declared for Mr. Cessna, which renders his nomination certain.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: Rumors having been circulated that the movement for an informal convention of the native Republicans in the minority counties had been abandoned, we are authorized to state that the call which appeared in the papers of Thursday, to meet at the Girard House in this city, on the afternoon of the coming Fourth of July.

From a recent count it is ascertained that there are 40,000 colored voters in the Fifth or Black Congressional district.

The Republicans of Lawrence county were dissatisfied with the action of the Executive Committee in postponing the primary elections and nominations for county officers to August, and protested against it. The Lawrence *Journal* says: "It will be seen by the call published elsewhere, that the Chairman of the County Committee has changed the time. The Committee together on Saturday, July 23. We are pleased to see that the Chairman, either from a desire to please a few men in the county, or from respect for a very general feeling, has changed his mind. We think that both the manner and time of making nominations changed from what was indicated by the call of the Committee, is wise. The call seemed to call them together, and, to us doubtless many in a similar position, it was a call that has been numerously signed in all parts of the country. It is fair to presume that he will not be offended at our saying that we think the Committee for their consideration, and we would express our views to the Committee. They will be submitted to a *direct vote* of the Republicans of the county, at a reasonable early day, under the rules or similar ones, to those by which such elections are governed in neighboring counties. Thus, we have been informed it is intended to harmonize the party in the county, and, if possible, to have candidates for the offices to be voted for, that will be generally supported, fully employed to produce so desirable a result."

The Lawrence County Chairman is wiser than our Allegheny County Chairman, who can learn nothing till it is too late, and it is questionable whether even then he is entirely sure of what is perfectly clear to every one else.

James A. Logue, Westmoreland's nominee for Congress in the Twenty-first District, has announced as his conferees Gen. C. P. Markle, A. A. Johnston and Joseph W. Moorhead. The latter is the "Joe" of Forney's "Life of Buchanan," and is an earnest, and sanguine as to his nomination.

The following resolutions were introduced in the Washington County Republican Convention on Monday last, and adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention the custom which requires candidates to canvass the county for their own election, tends to produce discord and strife, frequently engendering bad feeling between aspirants for office and their friends, and is therefore pernicious and useless in their results, and should be abolished.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention the present system of instructing delegates to nominating conventions should be abandoned, and the County Committee are requested hereafter to embody in their call a provision for the election of delegates to the State Convention in the same manner as at the regular elections.

Judge John N. Conyngham, of Luzerne county, in a communication to the Scranton *Republican* announces a couple of days ago that he has forwarded to the Governor his resignation, to take effect on the 8th of July.

The Somerset county *Republican* has nominated Wm. H. Sanner for Assembly.

The result of the Democratic primary election of Clearfield county is the renomination of Hon. Wm. A. Wallace for Congress, and the selection of the District Convention, for Jury Commissioner, Jacob Bauer for Auditor, J. A. Bloom for Coroner, Samuel A. Caldwell.

Following is the Republican ticket in Westmoreland county: Congress—James A. Logan. Assembly—A. M. Logan. Prothonotary—Eli Barnes. Register and Recorder—A. Barnes. Commissioner—Charles Ramsey. County Commissioner—Barnet Thomas. Poor House Director—Jacob Gettemy. Auditor—A. Blair. The *Herald* says they "are all good men and true, worthy and well qualified."

Bruce Southworth has Withdrawn from the canvass in Crawford county, as a candidate for County Commissioner.

Of the Republican nominations in that county the Washington *Reporter* says: "The ticket put in nomination is one of character in point of ability, integrity and strength, and our prediction can be safely made that it will command the hearty support of the Republican voters of this county."

The Butler *Citizen* of this week prints the following letter from Senator Kerr:

HARRISBURG, June 15th, 1870.

John H. Negley, Esq., Editor American Citizen:

On two occasions you have referred to the attack made upon me by Forney, and in his newspapers, Though varying somewhat in form, they are the same in substance, looking to the charge that I, while acting as Secretary of State Treasurer last winter. The Republicans of my district are aware that I voted for General Irwin for that office, and not for Mr. Robert W. Mackey, the candidate nominated. This, with the charge of some "job" or "jobs" is the great offense. Had the nomination been made by the people themselves, as I thought it would have been, and as it is well known to many, however, that these Legislative caucuses sometimes do not short of a packed convention, I should have voted for the nominee. I would have considered it my duty to do so. But the nomination was made by a caucus of Republican members of the Legislature, and I considered myself free to vote for whom I pleased. I voted for Mr. Mackey, because I thought him the best man for the place, and because I was personally friendly to him. I have been a Republican from the organization of the party, and have never voted for a Democrat for any office. I have always been a Republican, and always intend to be one. I have never been charged with any act of dishonesty in my life, and I am not going to allow any man to do it with impunity. I have been in the habit of paying but little attention to the attacks made upon me by Forney and his newspapers, but as you have referred to the matter, I have thought it proper to make this statement.

Yours, truly,

JAMES KERR.

P. S.—I have been engaged in business with the public for four years, and I, with others, have made money. I have not been very successful, but never before felt it necessary to appeal to the public for a vindication of my character. It is the case. I should have attempted an explanation some time ago but for the counsel and advice of friends, who thought it better to suffer and be misunderstood than to have the matter discussed till fully ventilated by those who had made the charges. I have been told by the end of our nominating canvass, which has just closed.

J. K.

The Clearfield Republican Convention will meet on the 8th of July.

Dr. John B. Reading, Twenty-third ward, Philadelphia, whose seat in Congress was successfully contested by Taylor, will probably be a candidate for the Assembly.

The Indiana *Messenger* says: The Congressional conferees from the several counties comprising this district, will meet in Pittsburgh, some time during week after next, to consult and agree upon a candidate. It is generally conceded that the nomination will come to this county.

Gen. Joshua T. Owens and A. C. Harmer are rivals on the Republican nomination for Congress in the Fifth Congressional district, which is composed of Bucks county and three wards of Philadelphia.

On Tuesday the Armstrong Democracy put in nomination the following ticket: Congress, Col. W. H. Sowell; Assembly, Gen. Putney; Associate Judges, Capt. Nulton; District Attorney, Jefferson Reynolds; Sheriff, Alexander McCandless; Treasurer, Capt. Montgomery; Jury Commissioner, Samuel C. King, Auditor, Jas. X. McIlwain.

The Democracy of Washington county yesterday put the following ticket in nomination: Congress—Captain William McClelland. Assembly—Jerome Grable, James Donaldson. Sheriff—William C. Ramsey. Prothonotary—James Cruikshank. Director of the Poor—James McBride. Jury Commissioner—William Quail. Auditor—Charles Campbell.

The Warren County Republican Convention met on Friday, and nominated the following ticket: Assembly—Hon. Wm. Hall. Sheriff—C. W. Stone. President Judge—L. D. Wetmore. Sheriff—S. W. Brown. Prothonotary—W. B. Hall. Register—Perry Barber. County Commissioner—Henry Barber. County Commissioner—N. Mead. Jury Commissioner—C. S. Roup.

The Fulton county Republican Convention met on Saturday, and resolved in favor of the nomination of John Cessna for Congressman, and S. P. Wishart for Representative.

The Republican primaries in Lycoming county will be held on Saturday, July 2d, and the county convention on the following Wednesday.

It is hinted at that Edward Joy Morris, who will shortly return from Constantinople, will be invited to take an independent nomination in the Third district against Myers. We do not believe that he will accept the nomination under the circumstances.

The Williamsport *Gazette* says: We know from the approaches that have been made to Republicans in this county, that the Democratic leaders can purchase the columns of a Republican paper to advocate, in whole or in part, their doctrines, if they can find a Republican for it. Hence, whenever we see a Republican paper in this county, or elsewhere, that is advocating free trade, we conclude the editor has seen the agent of the free trade league.

Of the ticket nominated in Erie, says the Erie *Dispatch* has this to say: "No better ticket could be desired. Whatever our mistakes have been heretofore in nominating men who have done their duty poorly, collecting $2,000 for the establishment of a Professorship of Natural Science, known as the Thaddeus Stevens Professorship.

The Williamsport *Gazette* cautions novices in the use of gas not to blow it out, and cites as a warning the case of a boarding house in that place, where a few nights ago the inmates were jeopardized through the sudden experiment of a novice in "blowing out" gas instead of turning it off.

John Wagner, aged about thirty-one years, six feet high, with mark on left side of the face, wearing a brown suit, left his home on Friday, the 10th inst., in Erie. He has gone since, and any information concerning his whereabouts will be thankfully received by his wife, Anna Wagner, Erie, Pennsylvania.

The landlords of Indiana, having concluded that discretion was the better part of valor, opened their houses Thursday last for the entertainment of the public, without waiting to grant license to the applicants, stating that the refusal of last Court was for one year.

The Hollidaysburgh Seminary Commencement took place on Tuesday.

Joseph Hunt of Huntingdon, while carelessly handling a revolver, on the 11th inst., discharged it, the ball penetrating the breast of a little girl named Mary Mann, and lodging in her back. The girl is in a precarious condition, and Hunt was committed to answer.

The Altoona *Sun* says: Wm. Smiley, clerk at Bennington iron works, was severely injured by a pistol shot in the right groin. He and another gentleman were sitting together on a log, when the latter, in pulling a pistol from the pocket of his companion was accidentally discharged, with the result above stated. The wounded man is doing well, and will recover.

An unknown man was struck by a freight train Wednesday night, while walking on the track, receiving probably fatal injuries.

Henry Beckenstose, of Shaffertown, Lebanon county, last week had a pocket book received from a horse a few days previously.

On Saturday last while Mr. Jacob Walborn, a carpenter of Jackson township townsin, Lebanon county, was at work on the roof of a barn for Mr. John Webert, of Mt. Zion, he fell from the grain room on a pile of stones, breaking both legs.

The Grand Jury of Schuylkill county have recommended an extension of the county prison.

Mrs. Lawrence, widow of the late T. Bigelow Lawrence, of Boston, is erecting a palatial residence near Doylestown, the home of her father, Hon. Henry Chapman.

Hon. Wm. Darlington will deliver the Fourth of July oration at Orangeville, Columbia county.

By the falling of a stone wall in Erie, on Thursday last, Mr. Beckwith was instantly killed, and two others badly injured.

The Presbyterian Church at Cooperstown, Venango county, will be dedicated on Sunday, June 26th.

A railroad laborer at Greenville imbibed freely of whisky last Saturday, lay down in the broiling sun and died.

Prof. Light made a balloon ascension from Carlisle on Saturday. This was his 104th aerial voyage.

David D. Davis was instantly killed in Pardoe's coal mine, near Mercer, on Friday last, by a fall of coal. He left a wife, one of Wales, and leaves a wife and three children.

Mrs. Hannah Longacre, of Barneston station, used kerosine to kindle a fire one day last week, and was fatally burned. Who's the next?

A man in Washington county has recently built a house, the four corners of which are each in a different township, and one of the townships meeting in the center of his cellar.

On Monday last Miss Mary McConnell, aged eighty years, fell dead at her residence in Bellefonte.

A male child was recently born in Perry county, which, from present prospects is likely to prove fleet, stout and healthy.

A son of Daniel Kelly, of Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, accidentally shot and killed himself on the 15th inst.

A cow drover got himself into trouble, in Montgomery county, the other day, by trying a "trick of his trade" to impose on purchasers, through a most cruel infliction on cows and calves. He had tied a string firmly around the base of the tail of each animal, thereby hooking their mothers, in order to swell their udders and give them the appearance of great milkers. The owners detected the trick, inflicting cruelty to dumb animals, and fined ten dollars for each offense, amounting to $300.

One day last week a man named Jacob Fry, of Pennsylvania township Westmoreland county, accidentally set fire to her clothes, and was so terribly burned that no hopes are entertained of her recovery.

President Cattell, of Lafayette College, who has been absent more than a year upon a tour of observation among the great educational institutions of the country, returned to Easton on the 23d, and was made the recipient of a magnificent ovation by the students of the college and the citizens.

Stroudsburg is going to have a street railway. Work has already commenced on it.

The Baldwin locomotive works at Philadelphia employ seventeen hundred hands, whose aggregate wages amount to $150,000 per month. The sales of the firm reach somewhere in the neighborhood of $5,000,000 annually.

Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, including the new additions, contains 2,700 acres, and is the largest public park in America, Central Park, New York, only measuring 862 acres.

The Pittston *Gazette* says that region is again being infested with gangs of horse thieves.

Geo. Garner, aged twenty-one, was drowned while bathing in the Schuylkill, at Reading, on Sunday last.

F. H. Braggins, Esq., of the Mercer *Dispatch*, was not so badly injured by being thrown from a carriage as at first reported. Barring a few severe contusions, he is now the worst for the accident.

Says the Meadeville *Republican*: A gentleman was recently posted, estimates that the various religious and benevolent societies in Crawford county have been benefited to the amount of $100,000 by the political campaign which is just drawing to a close.

The car shops at Reading, which were destroyed by fire Sunday morning, were erected in 1864; were of stone, 70 by 168 feet, and spanned by three slate roofs, the buildings originally costing $50,000. They will be rebuilt for the construction and repair of all kinds of wooden cars, and contained machinery of the most improved pattern. It is thought the fire was the result of incendiarism.

Mrs. Noble, a widow residing near Erie, died very suddenly on Sunday. It was thought at first that she had died from cholera, but a careful examination showed that her death was caused by paralysis, following old age and neuralgia in the bowels.

A very severe storm occurred at four o'clock Sunday afternoon, in Fulton county, accompanied with rain and hail. It came from the north and swept through the valley. About one-half of the roof of the Court House at McConnellsburg was blown off, and carried some distance. The new Methodist Episcopal Church was much injured, but the walls at both ends removed from the foundation.

The Allentown *Chronicle* says: The new iron stack of the North Penn Iron Company, near Hellertown, was erected on Wednesday. This we believe will be the largest stack in the country, the top being one hundred and twenty-three feet from the ground.

A young fellow in Erie, a sailor by occupation, made a bet with a companion, a deck hand of a schooner, a distance of ninety-eight feet, and came up apparently uninjured. He offered to dive from the top of a grain elevator, a distance of twice that value for a purse of $100. So says the *Dispatch*.

Allentown has just passed an ordinance extending her corporate boundaries and giving immunity to her new citizens.

During the raising of a new church at Squirrel Hill, in Porter township, Clarion county, last week, a piece of timber broke and several sticks fell to the ground, throwing down and killing the horse of Mr. Jacob Hoover, breaking them. One man named Pence it is thought will not recover.

A son of Emanuel Bates, of York, was drowned in the Codorus on Monday last. This family is remarkably unfortunate. Last 4th of July one of the boys lost a finger through firearms; more recently another child was scalded; this week before last a third had his fingers lacerated at Farquhar's machine shop, and now a fourth is drowned.

The office of District Attorney Sturgeon, in Erie, was burglarized Friday afternoon, and some important papers carried away.

The house of Mr. Rodney Cole, on French Creek, about four miles south of North East, Erie county, was entered by burglars late Thursday night. A young lady there heard them in the room, but was chloroformed. After awhile she came to and endeavored to give the alarm, when the murderous brute beat her over the head with a club, evidently intending to kill her. They ransacked the premises and secured considerable booty, and then left hurriedly, driving off in a buggy.

In Carlisle, the other day, a flock of pigeons were set upon by a swarm of bees, and many of them stung to death. It seems the bees were about swarming, and the pigeons, in a flock, passed through the cloud of excited honey-makers, which enraged them, and they attacked the feathered enemy with the result stated.

The Keystone Bolt Manufacturing Company of this city will, it is said, soon erect works in Bellefonte.

William Porter, of Chester, aged sixty, was crowned off a boat near the mouth of Ridley Creek, Saturday last. His two companions were absent, and as he was lame it is supposed he fell in attempting to walk a plank connecting the boat with the shore.

The Scott foundry, Reading, has just completed the manufacture of a rifled cannon which is to throw a hundred pound ball a distance of ten miles.

The Juniata *Sentinel* says a small child of Samuel Mowry, of Spruce Hill township, died on Tuesday morning, the 12th inst., from the effects of chewing matches.

Mrs. Faust, who resided near Wernersville, in Lower Heidelberg township, Berks county, and who was so cruelly beaten by her husband, James Faust, while the latter was in a beastly state of intoxication, and for which he is now in prison, died on Tuesday from the effects of her injuries.

The Scranton *Republican* gives the particulars of an accident in a mine by which John Ed. Johnson, Peter Scanlon and Charles Grogan were killed, and Thomas Caffrey seriously injured. Their death was caused by the falling of a roof. Austin Hurdy was killed in a mine at Dunmore by the falling of a horseback.

John Hayes, an old man who was shot at Meadville on the 3d of March by Geo. Avery, died on Thursday last. Avery wanted Hayes to buy stolen goods of him, but the latter refusing, Avery shot him at night. Avery has been arrested, and is said to be the leader of a notorious gang of robbers. His father is a wealthy citizen of Lackawaxen.

The Shenandoah *Herald* of the 18th states that at Raven's Run, near Shenandoah, on the previous Sunday, a man named James Gaffney was shot by another named John Toole, from the effects of which Garner died on Monday. The two men, with others, had been drinking in the forenoon and afternoon, and Toole, a physician himself, making me forget for more than once the sweetness of home, and the loveliness of that smile of his, and by the rough gold of his broken speech (the more charming, I think, for its imperfections), that I have ever possessed any finer gift than that of conversation. It was a great delight to look upon those two ladies, and mark their every impulse, the love which, wrapt in queenly garniture and tender grace, flowed from eyes crossed and reflected from ocean so many times, and accompanied their messenger through nearly all civilized lands, feeding many hungry hearts, and making them inspiring so many darkened and saddened souls."

The Empress Eugenie, the Princess Metternich, and other ladies of rank, have had the credit of originating most of the Paris toilettes, when, in fact, they do nothing of the kind. They choose from the styles offered for their consideration, adopting, and thus sanctioning, those which please them most, or are the most becoming. The same thing has very frequently been first introduced by the *demi-monde*.

The Delmonico brothers were once waiters in a Paris restaurant. They are now New York poor.

A correspondent of a Chicago paper avers that Parepa married little Carl Rosa because he had no friends.

Mark M. Rigney, editor of the New Orleans *Times*, is a Nova Scotian and a poet.

The New York *Tribune* says friendship for General Sherman will prevent Senator Wilson from calling up the back pay bill.

Prevost-Paradol, the new French Minister to this country, is said to be engaged to an American lady.

Mr. Laurence Oliphant is Mr. Disraeli's review in *Blackwood*. He is an Englishman, but resides at present in the United States.

Horace Greeley's daughter is writing a book.

Ex-Queen Isabella has made her will, leaving all she don't own to the Prince of Asturias.

Mr. Steiger, in a recent number of his *Literarischer Monatsbericht*, made the liberal offer of $60 for the best historical sketch of the intellectual vigor and progress of the German population in North America, more particularly exhibiting the influence of the German-American press on the development of American institutions, to occupy fifty pages of that journal, and to be sent in by May 1, 1871.

STATE NEWS.

A boy named Cornell, aged about ten years, living in the vicinity of Edinboro, Erie county, was killed on Saturday by the breaking of the reins of a bridge on the Waterford turnpike, about one mile east of Edinboro.

The oldest person in Connellsville is Mrs. Hall, who has reached the remarkable age of one hundred and eight years. She came to the Youngh country and crossed the Youghiogheny river on her way to the Old Union Furnace, where she was not a house where Connellsville now stands.

The new Presbyterian reunited Synod of Philadelphia is holding a session in that city at this time, in the Spring Garden Presbyterian Church, at the corner

Weekly Commercial.

THE GREAT OIL FIRE.

Oil Tanks Struck by Lightning.

FIVE OIL REFINERIES IN FLAMES.

The Sharpsburg Bridge Burned.

Loss Over Half a Million of Dollars—Partial Insurance.

ONE MAN BURNED TO DEATH.

A TERRIBLE SCENE.

Exciting Incidents.

One of the most disastrous oil conflagrations ever known in the State of Pennsylvania occurred Tuesday afternoon, in the Eighteenth ward, opposite the borough of Sharpsburg, resulting in the entire destruction of the Eclipse Oil Works and their contents, the destruction of the Citizens' and three others, and the destruction of the Sharpsburg bridge. The terrible conflagration was caused by the simultaneous striking by lightning of two oil tanks—one belonging to the Citizens and the other to the Eclipse Oil Works. One life was lost.

THE REFINERIES

Are situated on the Pittsburgh bank of the Allegheny river, and extend from a point distance above the Sharpsburg bridge down the river a distance of a half mile.

The Citizens' Refinery buildings are located on the lower side of the road, above the bridge, near the road running down to the bridge. Upon the opposite side of the road to the Eclipse Works, of Dr. H. W. C. Tweedle, there being a number of tanks near the corner where the road turned down to the bridge. Below these were the shed houses, treating houses and other buildings, the office being down near the railroad track in a sort of a hollow between the refinery and the bridge. It was also the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Near the works and just below them was the elegant residence of Dr. Tweedle, and accompanying buildings.

Below and adjoining this were, in the following order, the refineries, some of which were considerably damaged: Forsythe Bros., Ellwood & Bell's, and the National Refining and Storing Company.

THE ECLIPSE WORKS

Have been in operation for the past four years, but great improvements have been made within the past year, and the works contained some of the most valuable machinery in the United States, there being in the works a parallel engine, one of the finest in the country. This, together with fifty tons of paraffine ready for shipment, was destroyed. The ground was owned principally by Dr. Tweedle, and was occupied about ten acres of ground. Nothing but a pile of ashes is left of the extensive works.

THE CITIZENS' COMPANY

Is composed of the following gentlemen: Andrew Lyons, James Rown, Theodore Task, F. B. Agnew, Reese Owens, and Jared M. Foster. The works contained about four and a quarter acres, and had a capacity of ten thousand barrels per month.

THE SHARPSBURG BRIDGE AND THE CITIZENS' COMPANY.

In February last, a bill in equity was filed by the Sharpsburg Bridge Company against the Citizens' Oil Refining Company, to restrain them from constructing their tanks in such close proximity to the bridge as to endanger it in case of fire. A preliminary injunction was granted by Judge Agnew, but the Citizens' Refining Company had given notice of their intention to appeal to the Supreme Court, and the case is still pending. The accounts generally agree that the bridge did take fire from the Citizens' works, and there is considerable diversity of opinion as to whether it took fire immediately from either of the refineries, some alleging that the roof of the bridge was observed to be burning before the three tanks took fire, and others giving rise to the impression that the bridge was also struck by lightning.

THE TWO THUNDERSTORMS.

Shortly after two o'clock there loomed up around the horizon black threatening clouds and the rumbling thunder told of the fearful storm that was approaching. In a few moments the wind became almost a tornado, vivid flashes of lightning and deafening peals of thunder followed, and soon the awful work of devastation commenced.

THE CONFLAGRATION.

About half-past two o'clock the lightning struck simultaneously a 20,000 barrel tank belonging to the Eclipse Works, and one belonging to the Citizens' Company, setting fire from these set fire to the adjoining promises, and flowed rapidly down to the bridge, setting fire to all buildings that came in its way, and soon the bridge was enveloped in flames. It was but an instant and a pall as black as midnight sett ed over the entire region, and thousands were viewing from the terrible scene without scarcely being able to see their way. The flames swept down upon the office of the Western Union, and the head keeper of the Eclipse Works, was sitting, and only a few charred remains are left to tell his sad fate.

A man named Valentine Hulby jumped from the second story of the Citizens' Works and was burned; he was followed by a man named Patrick Welch, and they endeavored to assist the family of Wm. Tweedle to escape. A colored man who resides at Negley's Run, was accidently burned in Dingley's house. The wife of Hulby had to be taken to a hospital.

In a few moments the scene presented was indescribably sublime. The flames seemed to mount upon the lift able above the large gasholder, and formed a picture of magnificent conflagration. About fifteen acres of burning tanks, dwellings and buildings lay beneath the eye. From each tank came rolling up immense columns of dense smoke, and over and among these the flames would leap skyward as if anxious to follow the pillars of smoke in their upward course. Five huge columns of black smoke marked the points where oil tanks were burning, and the dwelling house of Dr. Tweedle and the buildings of the Eclipse refinery filled in the intervening space with lurid flames. Beyond this, and seen glancing through the smoke, the Sharpsburg bridge was to be seen, clearly defined, and blazing and crackling about to fall. From each side of the south abutment of the high plateau the woodwork fell into the river and merged like a huge funeral pyre in the current.

Just then there arose from the burning mass of the Eclipse ruins the screeching of the steam, escaping from the safety valves of the six large boilers, and the sound was like the momentary expectation of an explosion. The valves were closed and screwed to a tone that seemed like the mourning of some wounded monster over the awful spectacle.

The conflagration extended along the river bank for almost half a mile, and the ties of the Allegheny Valley Railroad were set on fire and the rails warped from the intense heat of the combustible shops.

The air was filled with burning cinders, and some of the first struck and ignited a tank of crude oil belonging to Dorsey the Iron, and also set fire to the extensive oil refining house of the National Refining and Storing Company, over a quarter of a mile distant, and nearly the first fire broke out. The Astral works of Mr. John B. Best were also partially burned. A large lumber yard was also destroyed by burning. At the Natrue at works the Independence saved the tank over the building by throwing on it a steady stream of water. The Anchor Refinery, Dilworth Bros. owners, was also slightly damaged.

THE LOSS.

Dr. Tweedie estimates the total loss at his private residence at about $30,000, on which there is an insurance of $20,000. His loss on the buildings and oil machinery was about $140,000 and on oil 280,000, and on paraffine and machinery $100,000. The loss of the Citizens' Works was estimated at $220,000 early last evening, but it was not impossible that their buildings might be destroyed. This company is pretty fully insured. The loss of Forsythe Bros. by burning of a tank, is estimated at $5,000, on which there is no insurance. The loss of Dilworth Bros. is probably not over $1,200. The loss of the National Works will fully be the warmth of $20,000. Eight cars of crude oil standing on the track of the Allegheny Valley Railroad in front of the Citizens' Works were also burned, and also the same number at one of the Eclipse Works. The Sharpsburg bridge was insured for $80,000.

The most of the property destroyed was insured in Eastern companies, principally through the agency of Swearingen & McGaughey.

STATEMENT OF AN EMPLOYE AT THE ECLIPSE WORKS.

One of our reporters conversed with Mr. Wm. Pennigner, a young man employed in the Eclipse Works of Dr. Tweedie, and who was the manager of the works, was standing in a boat house, on the river bank, immediately below the works and track of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, when the tank was struck, and he gives him the following account of the start of the fire:

The lightning first struck the tank situated in the upper part of the works, and which contained twenty thousand barrels of oil, and, firing pieces of the iron away into the fields above the road. The burning mass then fell through the yard in an immense volume, literally engulfing the boarding house, which is located on the lower end of the lot, on the Allegheny Valley Railroad. The employees of the establishment were in the boat house on lower side of the building and made hasty exits through the raised windows, the door of which could not be opened on account of the flames rolling close behind them of burning oil which had ignited from the fire of the cooper's in the barrel shop, which is attached to the warehouse, reports that it lighted on his back and was unable to tell whether his comrade jumped out "head or feet first" as they rushed toward the Allegheny Valley Railroad track and escaped.

NARROW ESCAPES.

In the meantime the flames had shot across the yard, and enveloped the handsome residence of Dr. Tweedie, which was located in about the center, and which was surrounded from three sides by oil stills by a trench, and paved, made to protect the dwelling in case of fire, and which proved so effective in the great fire at Forsythe Brothers' oil works, about a year since. But these precautions were of no avail this time, and, as stated, the flames swept over the house with violence. Mrs. Tweedie and several other ladies were sitting in the house at the time, totally unconscious of what was going on outside, and before they could get into the house and only a few minutes was allowed them to make their escape—the cellar window being the first available. A conveyance was then obtained and they were driven through the burning fluid to the river, and were conveyed across in a skiff to the Pittsburgh shore. Dr. Tweedie, who was at home, and who is a man of wealth and a liberal friend of society, had hosts of friends, and not a few admirers. The junior member is unmarried, but as the senior had his entire confidence in business and esteem as a gentleman, and his affection as a gentleman, and was a welcome visitor at all times. On Sunday afternoon, while the senior was at church, the junior called at his residence, and found the family assembled, and possibly all of them, would have sought shelter in the bridge, a step was prevented at the time, or been in the office of the Eclipse Oil Works, where Mr. Foster was located, as it was generally used as a place for seating the passenger railway by those acquainted with Mr. Foster, whose courtesy had won for many friends. In any event, these passengers would have been hemmed in on all sides by the fire, and escape would have been next impossible.

Being next the place where the tank belonging to the Citizens' Oil Refinery was struck, the company had 850,000 worth of empty barrels on hand, and 100,000 barrels of crude oil. One tank holding 7,000 barrels of crude oil was discovered on fire, and soon after another, and a very large amount of oil in either of the two tanks burned.

The fire was then looked at through the dense columns of smoke lost all of its power to dazzle, and could be observed with the naked eye as easily as through a telescope, on ordinary occasions.

Upon the fields in the little pond in front of Dr. Tweedie's house were all killed, and many of them locked as though they had been cooked in boiling water.

A valuable horse belonging to Dr. Tweedie broke away from the stable, and was not seen so rapidly that none of the fowls about the premises were able to escape. Several houses on the upper side of the road were saved by the exertions of citizens.

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THE RAILROAD TRACK.

Although the track of the Allegheny Valley Railroad was badly damaged, the workmen have been steadily at work, and have succeeded in putting the track in running order, so that trains pass up and down with their accustomed regularity.

The other oil refineries, which were mentioned yesterday as being damaged, look if they were not destroyed, will be all right, and probably be repaired without great difficulty.

THE FIREMEN

We are requested by many of the oil owners heavily interested in the property at the scene of the conflagration, to state that the thanks are due the firemen for their great exertions, their exertions and did all in their power to save the property.

SENSATION IN EAST LIBERTY.

A Dishonorable Partner and a Faithless Wife.

On Sunday afternoon, East Liberty, and particularly the region known as the "Stock Yards," was greatly excited over the circulation of the most startling story to the effect that the wife of a well known and wealthy stock dealer had been caught *in flagrante* with her husband's partner in business. The facts are thus described: The senior member of the firm has a fine dwelling, who, being fond of society, had hosts of friends, and not a few admirers. The junior member is unmarried, but as the senior had his entire confidence in business and esteem as a gentleman, and his affection as a gentleman, and was a welcome visitor at all times. On Sunday afternoon, while the senior was at church, the junior called at his residence, and found the family assembled, and possibly all of them, would have sought shelter in the bridge, a step was prevented at the time, or been in the office of the Eclipse Oil Works, where Mr. Foster was located, as it was generally used as a place for seating the passenger railway by those acquainted with Mr. Foster, whose courtesy had won for many friends. In any event, these passengers would have been hemmed in on all sides by the fire, and escape would have been next impossible.

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One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

A WHINING APPEAL.

The Union Republican Executive Committee (by courtesy so styled) for this county has issued an address to the Republican voters, signed by W. S. PURVIANCE, Chairman, and the two Secretaries. Notwithstanding a few rather ill-natured reflections and very weak "inventions," we must admit that the general tone of the paper is not haughty—it is subdued and humble enough. It may be that the party at large will read with some astonishment the allegations of the Committee that the Republicans who have signed the call for an independent Republican Convention, are not real, but only "professed Republicans." It is indeed admitted that they "claim to be Republicans, and to have hitherto acted within the regular political organization," but the Committee are not assured of the fact and evidently doubt the genuineness of the "claim." Now we would pardon something to excited feelings and a good deal more to ignorance. The Committee is in trouble; and we long since more than suspected that it had little knowledge of the Republican party of this county. At length we are assured, by its own confession, of the truth of what we heretofore only surmised on strong grounds, indeed, but without the evidence which produces conviction.

The party is enlightened on another point. We have long suspected with others that the present Union Republican Executive Committee of this county, regarded itself as constituting the Republican party of Allegheny county, but the evidence was not entirely clear and satisfactory. Now the address settles the question. Our servants would be our masters. They claim to have "the powers, which, for years past, in authorized and regular channels, have been handed down to *your present* Executive Committee *at whose call, and whose alone*, the regular conventions convene." Ah! indeed, the power of our young Venitia is absolute. No matter that in 1865 you run the Republican majority of 11,000 down to 4,000. No matter that the whole party repudiates you now. Our self-satisfied young Venitia *alone* can call a convention. The servant has became a lord and master—a gentle lord and master, who mercifully promises not to apply "the party lash" to those "who may break away from the regular organization," that is to say, the sway of young Venitia.

The address charges that the Independent Movement has for its object the formation of a new party. The Committee which issued it know better. If ignorant as to the men who constitute the Republican party here, they are not ignorant of the object of the Independent Movement. They know well, that the sole purposes of the men who signed the call are first to secure a good Republican ticket for the coming election, and next, to provide a means of securing good Republican tickets hereafter. But this does not suit young Venitia, nor young Venitia's master, the old Winnebago chief. It is downwright rebellion, black treason to the Republican party for the people to meet, and nominate a ticket in which they have confidence and which they will support. Is it so indeed? Of course you mean rebellion and treason against your young Venitia, and you are right. You are to be thrown overboard or cuffed to some other vessel. But we judge there are over 25,000 Republicans here who will hardly concede that you are the party, or even any thing like a representative of it.

The argumentative part of the address is even weaker than the portions above referred to. "*If the time has come for a reform of our party, the proper way is to reform it by staying in it.*" "*If nominations have heretofore been weak, incompetent, and unfit,* the remedy is in your own hands." Now, whether young Venitia doubts the *necessity* of reform, or whether *the time* has come for it, or admits both, we cannot make out. The argument is altogether hypothetical. But the Republican masses do not doubt. Does young Venitia not know that so late as the Conventions of 1869, there were false and fraudulent marks made both in the county and Legislative Conventions, in the interests and at the instigation of politicians of the young Venitia school? You *do* know it. Do you not know that there were conspirators to *cheat* Governor GEARY out of the votes of this county? You *do* know it. Do you not know that not one of your "ring" will vote *viva voce*, as it is done in Legislative bodies, and national and State political conventions? You *do* know that long before the Convention meets, you have your Secretary picked, to influence and direct the delegate how to vote when he comes forward, if not to mislead and even cheat him. You do know that again and again ballot boxes at the primary elections have been stuffed, and delegates have sat in Conventions who were not elected. You know that the Legislature of Pennsylvania has brought disgrace and discredit upon the State. You know that not less than five hundred doggeries have been licensed in this city, and that there is not a house in which a prayer is offered from which does not come forth a cry for reform. Nobody doubts but young Venitia, and young Venitia only *pretends* to doubt.

But if grievances do exist, says young Venitia, they are to be redressed in the regular organization, that is to say, by young Venitia itself, an honest voter is not a ballot box stuffer and contend with him at the primaries. Disinterested men are to meet conspirators and plotters and adjust the question of reform. Honesty and crime are to unite to make a stronger combination in the interests of party purity. This is the sage advice of young Venitia. They say, wait and see our nominations before you "bolt" them. We are not "bolting." We propose to make nominations to suit ourselves. When a servant betrays his master, he ought to be dismissed and punished. "Wait and see if I do it again" is a moving petition for mercy, but does not inspire confidence. What would we think of the judge who, instead of passing sentence on a hardened criminal, should resolve to turn him loose and commend him to confidence on the humane ground that we ought to wait to see if he will do it again. The appeal is tender and moving indeed, but we want the evidence of reformation.

Try it again, young Venitia.

THE DAY OF RECKONING.

It has come at last! And so it will always be with tyranny and corruption.

The Republicans of Allegheny county, wearied and disgusted, will bear the dictation and corruption of the Central Junta no longer. For years they have practically had no voice in filling the offices or in the control of their own affairs. They might select delegates, but the Junta have done the "marking" in conventions, and though A might be the choice of a majority, B, if the favorite of the Junta, was certain to be "marked" in. What bargaining and purchase could not effect, "marking" could. NAPOLEON never invented a system for perpetuating his tyranny more perfect than this "marking" system of the Junta.

Every attempt to reform the manner of making nominations has been steadily and successfully resisted. The "marking" system has been insisted on as the very thing necessary to the continuance of the Central Power which for years has dictated nominations to the Republicans of Allegheny and controlled the affairs of tax-payers.

It has frequently been asked why the offices were filled by persons selected from headquarters. The answer is, that headquarters have held on to the very thing which enabled them to control conventions against the will of the people. The people might select delegates to Conventions, but the Junta were safe so long as they possessed this secret spring whereby they were greater than the people.

To dethrone this Junta and destroy this Power the Republican masses of Allegheny have out entirely loose from it and taken the control of affairs into their own hands. It is no bolt. So far from this being the case, it is the Republican party, in its proper capacity, acting in defiance of the Junta.

In justification of this act every principle, moral and political, which governs men of ordinate and high purposes can be successfully appealed to. Not only does conscience but interest council and justify the action.

Among the results of the Junta's sway is increased taxation and a perfectly frightful increase of crime, wretchedness and misery. To the lowest order of community have been subjugated its most vital concerns. Those who pay the taxes and have the greatest stake in the management of affairs have really had little or nothing to say. And now that they complain and propose to institute a remedy, they are met with the insulting accusation that they have neglected their duty, that if they had attended the primary meetings they might have had the control. In nine cases out of ten, what chance has a decent citizen ever had at a primary meeting or in a convention, against the Junta? NAPOLEON might to-day with equal reason taunt the French people, on whose necks he has placed his yoke, with the accusation that they have not done their duty.

The tyranny of the Junta is now and will continue to be absolute unless the people rise in their power. Every valuable interest has been trifled with. The moral sentiment of the community has been treated with contempt. Though taxation has piled mountain high, though every other house contain a skeleton as the result of the nefarious management of the office of Commissioner, the Junta have continued to run that machine in utter naeoncern. The complaint from taxpayers is disregarded. The cry from hundreds of ruined families, the startling criminal calendar of our courts, the amazing increase of depravity and vice, the dark cloud of dissipation and drunkenness, all proceeding straight from the Junta's machine, the County Commissioner's office, have no influence on them.

To think that the great Republican party with its sacred memories, great principles and high purposes, should be so prostituted,—it is this that has made endurance longer impossible. Thank God, the day of reckoning has come at last!

WHAT NOMINATIONS?

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I was glad to see that you favor nominating the most eminent Republicans and estimable citizens of the county as candidates at the ensuing election. This is all that is needed. I am as familiar with the temper of the people as any one can well be, and I can bear witness that with a ticket before them that includes such names as those to which I suppose you allude, there could be no possible doubt of the result. The Reform Convention should make free to select such gentlemen, and it would be their only duty to stand. It would be a rare honor to receive a nomination in this manner and in such a cause; and in my judgment no one would feel at liberty to decline. Let the ticket be nominated, by all means, pre-eminently "fit and the game will be up!" F. T.

Our correspondent writes to the point. The best names should be selected, and the gentlemen selected should, and we doubt not, will consent to stand. This done, the result will be as clear to the public mind as the unclouded sun of noonday.

REPORTS, even in the form of telegraphic dispatches, for which the Greek Government may or may not have been responsible, some time ago represented that all the robbers concerned in the murder of the English party had been captured. Letters from Athens, of June 23, state that after the whole company known as ORVANITAKI's band, only seven had been captured, and of these seven only four had been directly engaged in the perpetration of the crime which had produced such excitement in Europe. In Athens intense interest was felt in the trial of the miscreants, and to gratify as far as possible the public curiosity the Court met in a larger hall than usually sufficed to accommodate the witnesses of its proceedings. During the trial the criminals manifested great indifference about the result, while their bearing was arrogant, defiant, or even contemptuous. They are young men. When questioned concerning the deaths of their victims, one of them, named ALEXIS RHORMOVAS, snubbed the Judge for his irrational curiosity, reminding him that when people shoot at one another, especially if they shoot straight, the bullets are apt to hit somebody. He represented that they had taken great care of their prisoners, and paid particular attention to their comfort—that it was a point of honor in the profession never to release a captive alive if he remained unransomed—that, in violation of a promise they had been attacked by the government troops, and that when no longer able to keep the foreigners with them, they had killed them of course. They were honorable man they, and always fulfilled their engagements.

These scoundrels were convicted after a short examination, and, if we rightly remember, the telegraph has mentioned their execution. But it appears that punishment is little dreaded by brigands in Greece on account of its uncertainty. When seized they are nearly always condemned to death, and nearly always escape. A noted chief is spoken of who has received the death sentence five times, and is still alive. The consequence of this impunity is that the peasantry are afraid to take part in arresting them, as one thus brought to punishment never fails to take vengeance upon his enemies.

Shortly after the Marathon affair, a leading Russian journal laid the blame of Greek brigandage on Turkey. The paragraph was extensively quoted and commented upon in Western Europe as an illustration of Russian unreason where the "sick man" is concerned. The facts that most of these robbers are *Vlach* shepherds who, living near the frontier, readily shift their residence from Turkey to Greece and from Greece to Turkey, and own allegiance to neither power. ORVANITAKIS's entire band, it seems, were subjects of Turkey, and its remnant is believed to have found refuge in the sick man's dominions. Thus, the Russian notion was not so absurd after all.

NAMES, by their sound, impose upon the imagination, and by the mere change of a vowel, or the mere transposition of an accent, a proper name may not only be divested of its euphony, but the romantic impression of centuries of history is sometimes made to give place to suggestions of the ludicrous. The justness of this remark will be admitted by every person who, familiar with the true pronunciation, or even with the *look* of the historical Norman names of the English Peerage, has heard them clipped and debased by English lips. However, this is a rather long "preliminary observation" to what we intended to say. The connection may be established by the remark that we in this country quite as generally fail in our common talk to do full justice to the sonorous and majestic vocables of Indian origin which adorn our maps. By smothering syllables and changing the accentuation we utterly spoil many of them. It must, however, be admitted that Pennsylvanians, though they sometimes too much sink a syllable of their aboriginal names, generally preserve the correct accent. Ohio, Conestoga, Conoconnessing, Conawaga, &c., &c., almost uniformly in usage receive the accent on the penult, or last syllable but one, which we believe to be right. But how about Niagara, the name soon to be in everybody's mouth? All emphasize the antepenult, the *ay*, a pronunciation sanctioned by the author of the *Fudge Family in Paris*. MOORE once lived in this country, as the reader knows, where doubtless he learned the native accent.

> "I could fancy, almost, he and I were a pair,
> Of unhappy young lovers who thus side by side
> Were taking, instead of rope, pistol, or dagger, a
> Desperate dash down the falls of *Niagara*."

But in the *Traveller* we read of

> Where wild Oswego spreads her swamps around,
> And *Niagara* stuns with thundering sound,

a couplet which proves that in GOLDSMITH's time the name was accented on *ga* according to the analogy of the Indian words cited above. However, usage gives law in such matters, and there is perhaps no sufficient reason for trying to restore the old pronunciation. Let the reader within hearing of the Falls, pronounce the name with all the power of his lungs first in the modern and then in the ancient way, and thus ascertain which sounds best to represent the thing. The first seems to imitate and denote a succession of rapid, violent, tumultuous sounds, like a discharge of musketry, while a slow majestic movement of irresistible power is echoed by the second.

WHEN an unwelcome guest brings his trunks and settles himself for the season, one feels like kicking him out. What might be endured and even made agreeable temporarily, becomes quite another thing in the light of permanency. Anything that is a hardship should be got rid of as soon as possible. Three common sayings point the reasons why the proposition to erect the Internal Revenue Bureau into a permanent Department, with new and extended powers, increased machinery and expense, will not receive the approval of the country. While they are entirely certain that the debt will last long enough, the people will not view with favor arrangements for carrying on the business of tax gathering as it is now prosecuted as though there was to be no diminution of the amount, lessening of expense or simplification of process. The proposition is likely to have about the same effect as the visit of the undertaker while the patient yet lives. The people hope for such a simplification of the mode of collecting the taxes, if not such a reduction of the taxes themselves, as will enable them to dispense with some part of the machinery and diminish the cost of running it. The proposition for a permanent Department is not in accordance with this view of the case, but quite the contrary. The addition to the Government of another Department, whose head shall be a Cabinet Minister, with subordinates in regular gradation, like the Treasury or War Department, means simply increased expense, and is decidedly suggestive, not only of the permanency of the debt itself, but of the reverse of a diminution of the articles to be taxed, and the simplifying and cheapening of the mode of collecting the revenue. It would be setting up a new, larger and more expensive establishment, when the reduction of the present one appears perfectly practicable and is generally expected. We are well aware that the increasing concerns of the country call for more machinery. The Interior Department was a necessity arising from the growth of the country. We should be sorry to be told that there exists reasons like this for the proposed new Department. The popular idea is that we are growing in the other direction—that the debt is not only growing less, but that the taxes and the expense of collecting it must diminish. The proposition for the new Department will, therefore, be viewed with suspicion and displeasure. We hope it will not carry.

IN the present condition of the popular mind in Europe, the prospect of political stability depends very much upon the lives of the reigning sovereigns. Radicalism is strong everywhere, and there is hardly a kingdom in which Democratic tendencies of great energy are not decidedly developed. The conviction that the age of hereditary privilege has gone never to return, is so generally prevalent as to have seized even members of the aristocratic classes and to be a terror to timid monarchs and their sincere adherents. And even though the privileged orders may feel strong in their antiquity and in the recognition of a majority, disturbances and attempts at revolution are commonly anticipated as probable results of an occasion presented by a royal demise.

Anxiety sincerely felt, though not much talked about, said just now to be caused by the state of health of some of the reigning sovereigns and by the age of others of them. Sickness and care have made havoc of the constitution of the Czar during the last two years. Three years ago his whole appearance gave promise of long life. At present his complexion is sallow, bilious, his cheeks are emaciated; his eyes are hollow and full of gloom, and the fears excited by these outward signs of falling health are confirmed by other circumstances. VICTOR EMANUEL is never well, and the character of the former attacks of illness from which he has suffered, suggests the probability of his sudden removal on very short warning. LOUIS NAPOLEON's health is known to be very bad, and his age increases the apprehensions of those who dread the political troubles almost certain to follow his decease. The King of Prussia is old, and cannot be expected to retain his physical energies very much longer. When referring in this manner to European rulers, we may not forget the great age of his Holiness PIUS the Ninth. There is little reason to expect that the proclamation of his infallibility will prolong his life. Great things will depend upon the election of his successor, and the selection can hardly fail to involve a long contest. And if such a contest should be contemporary with the succession in France, or with the death of the King of Italy, there would necessarily result a very interesting condition of affairs in Western Europe. Thus when we look over the water we may discern all the elements of social and political convulsions as great and terrible as any of former times.

CO-OPERATION, as they call it, is making decided progress in Europe. A congress in its interest lately sat for four days in Manchester, at which elaborate reports were read, and many of the most important co-operative schemes actually tried were discussed in the light of experience, while others believed to be practicable were suggested. English co-operators expect much from American ideas and experiments. One speaker said: "America was likely to distinguish itself in co-operation as it did in most things." We are informed that in this country co-operation is expected to take the place and effect the objects of strikes. In England it has been fairly tried and found entirely successful in several places, and especially in Rochdale. In Denmark thirty-seven stores on the Rochdale system are in successful operation, and in Switzerland something has been done in the same direction. In Austria two hundred and thirty-seven co-operative stores and sixteen productive associations, and in several of the German States the experiment in both these forms is being zealously tried. The Bishop of Manchester, who was unable to be present at the Congress, sent a letter in which he stated that he had reported to the Government in favor of co-operative farming as a means of improving the condition of the agricultural laborer. A good deal was said in the Congress on the subject of a great co-operative bank. The difficulty and hazard of the enterprise were freely admitted, and a letter from an experienced banker was read favorable to the scheme. In reference to the letter the very sensible remark was made that it came from too friendly a hand, and that the plan ought to be submitted to a hostile banker for his opinion of its feasibility.

These general statements may not be considered very satisfactory, but they may serve to excite curiosity on the subject and lead to inquiry. Among the reforms of the time, co-operation is well worthy of attention.

TO ALL who take an interest in the movement of the True Republicans, we have this to say: From every quarter from which word has come, it is of the most cheering character. In the country districts the movement is hailed no less favorably than in the city, and were the vote to be taken to-morrow, with such nominations in the field as are certain to be made, it would result in an overwhelming vote in their favor. The enemies of the movement are active in the desperate straits to which they have so suddenly been reduced, and omit no means or opportunity to prejudice the people against it. They are as free with their promises now as they ever have been—promises never redeemed; in fact made to be broken. It is these false promises, repeated from year to year, that have caused the people to move for the setting aside of those making them. And we are happy to assure our friends that the movement is so general and strong that there can be no question about what will be the result.

SPEECHES of great offenders have a remarkable similarity. It seldom happens that even the most hardened cases own up. The rule is, that great culprits, as a last resort, want to be put on their good behavior, pleading the good things they are going to do as an offset to the bad they have done. The latest instance is the organization styling itself the "Republican Executive Committee" for Allegheny county. Arraigned at the bar of Public Opinion for numerous offences in the past, and perceiving that condemnation and expulsion is about to take place, they plead piteously to be tried again. Their reasoning, if it should be admitted, would clear the greatest criminal that ever was arraigned in a court of justice. As such a plea is never admitted in a court of justice, so will it be denied in the Court of Public Opinion. But with them, as it never is in the case of the criminal, it will not be permitted to weigh in mitigation of the penalty. Year after year the offences of the Ring have been permitted to go unpunished, until morality, decency and the interest of community demand a reckoning. It is precisely to this pass matters have come; and the Court of Public Opinion is about to pass judgment. It is the privilege of the culprit to plead for a stay of proceedings and make promises for the future, and so too with the political offenders in question. But promises will not avail a particle in the march of justice. So let the Ring stand up!

THE publication of the names attached to the call for a Republican Convention, threw the ringleaders into dismay. The line fell like a bombshell in their camp, scattering them in all directions. The falsehoods they had for days been so industriously circulating were at once disproved. They had over and over declared that only a scalawag set, few in number, were engaged in the movement; that no Republican of character or respectability countenanced it, and that it was bogus from beginning to end. When the list, incomplete as it was, appeared, had the earth opened their amazement would not have been greater. They saw that the great body of the party was moving. The truth is, their fate is now revealed to them, though not a tenth or twentieth part of those who support the movement appear in the list. It is the uniform testimony that the Republicans who do not give to the movement their hearty support and bid it God speed, are miserably few in numbers, and generally under ring influence. Probably there are Republicans, in limited numbers, however, who, though conceding the necessity for reform and desiring earnestly that it should be worked out, doubt the ability of the people to break from the bondage of the rings. It is possible that there are some who hesitate through fear of electing Democrats, which fear they will soon get over. But as a general thing the Republican masses are of one mind in support of the movement. To those who, though wishing the movement well, yet fear the result, we say it is going through to a victorious end. This is what makes the ringleaders tremble. Already is their tune changed. They are in no humor now to indulge in flippant flings, stale jokes and coarse scalawag epithets. Dying men generally are serious.

HOW INSULTING it is to the Republicans of Allegheny to be told by a Central Committee which has been condemned by a direct vote of the party, that they have no right to make nominations except through them. This committee, under whose management the Republican majority in the county has dwindled down to almost nothing, set their machinery at work in the usual manner, counting confidently on cramming down the throats of the party anything they saw fit, as it has long been the practice. The masses of the party, choosing not to heed the summons, have called a convention of their own nearly two months earlier than the machine men will meet, whereupon the Central Power denounces the Republican masses as traitors, only using language more polite than the "Organ," which called them "whelps" whom it was going to "kick into outer darkness." The Convention will nominate a strong ticket composed entirely of Republicans, against whom not a word can be said. All that will remain for the Editorial Committee to decide on will be whether they will bolt or support the ticket. It matters but little which way they decide the question only so far as they as individual Republicans are concerned. It is the Republican party that is moving, and, if those composing the committee think proper to fall in, all well. If they do not, why, then it will be just as well for the party, but very bad for the bolters.

THE True Republican movement is making most gratifying progress. Thousands are in it who have made no sign in public, and will give it the benefit of their influence and experience. Numbers of Republicans, conspicuous before the cliques ruled them out because they could not make them their tools, have come forward to take a hand in the work of regenerating and saving the Republican party. It is also gratifying to know that eminent Republicans and estimable citizens will not decline to go upon the ticket in whatever position their fellow Republicans may choose to place them. The people are reaching out for the best men, and expect when they make a selection there will be no declining. The cause and the hour will permit no one to decline any part assigned to him. The party is in a crisis brought about by corrupt managers. To rescue it is a high duty, from which no one should think of shirking; and no one, we are confident, will. A ticket that in its composition will give expression to the sentiment that is universal outside of the Ring, will start off backed by three-fourths of the voters of Allegheny. We are happy to say that of such we are absolutely certain.

NOW that the Senate, on a square vote, has expunged from the Tax Bill the Income Tax clause, the country, with uncommon interest, will await the action of the House, when the bill goes back to that body. The Senate has responded to the almost universal demand, and that, too, in face of the adverse action of the House, which is popularly supposed to be the more immediate representative of the people. The subject has been thoroughly and understandingly discussed before the people, whose verdict is next to unanimous against the tax; and it would be strange indeed if the popular branch of Congress should persist in its opposition. The old-time notion has been that Congress should execute the ascertained will of the people. This is the central idea of a representative government, which has, singularly enough, been set aside, however, by the present House of Representatives up to this time, in its action on this question. The fact that the needs of Government require the continuance of this tax, cannot be urged, because if any such necessity exists the exaction in a form just and not not odious would be cheerfully submitted to. It is because the tax is unjust and odious that its abrogation is demanded.

GENERAL GUZMAN BLANCO is far from holding the quiet and absolute control of Venezuela described in reports some time ago. Too much was inferred and anticipated from the fact that he had got possession of Caraccas. But the old government, that of MONAGAS, is still strong in important towns and districts of the country, while BLANCO is losing friends and disgusting even enemies by the oppressive measures employed to raise money. He also has a serious foreign difficulty on his hands, caused by the seizure of the Dutch Mail steamer Houffeur. This vessel was laden with ammunition and supplies for MONAGAS, which the usurper laid hold of as a legitimate prey, and all remonstrances of the Holland Government were for a time set aside. At length BLANCO offered to give up the steamer and the mails, if allowed to retain the stores. But the frigate sent to demand the surrender of the Houffeur has left the coast for Curacoa with the Dutch consul on board—and it remains to be seen what measures will be taken for redress.

THINGS no bigger than your hand sometimes grow to huge proportions. Of this sort is the annexation movement in Canada, where a society calling itself the Union League has been organized with headquarters at Montreal, to bring about the union of British North America to the United States. A comprehensive plan of operations has been adopted, backed with money in liberal sums. Independence as the step preliminary to annexation is the first idea, it being impracticable to attempt to procure the consent of the "home government" to annexation out and out. Persons who observe matters closely readily come to the conclusion that the union of the Dominion with the United States is not a mere dream, but a fact that will be realized in a very few years, from causes natural and inevitable. It is known that General GRANT regards the question in a practicable light and as such is prepared to deal with it.

A WELL-MEANING correspondent wants to know, confidentially, whom the true Republicans are going to nominate. As we have no special knowledge or control, we will simply say that it is our belief that the True Republicans will select for the offices to be filled the most eminent members of the party; and we will say, furthermore, that our belief is that no one thus selected will feel at liberty to decline. There are times when no duty or position is to be declined, and in our opinion this is true of the present time. The people absolutely long for candidates possessing capacity and honesty, and will hail with joy selections of this kind. The present is a time when no citizen should feel himself at liberty to decline the solicitations of his fellow citizens to stand for office. The period of complaints has been long and dreary. Now that the door of reform has been opened, no one has a right to refuse to take the part assigned to him. All we can say to our correspondent, therefore, is that it is our belief that the persons who will be elected to office in Allegheny at the ensuing election will be among the most eminent Republicans and estimable citizens of the county. We say elected, because such, we consider, will be the nominees of the True Republicans.

ONLY a few days ago the "organ" gave notice that it was going to "kick into outer darkness" all who had anything to do with the true Republican movement. We venture to suggest that now is a good time to commence. When it shall have finished the list published yesterday, some thousands more will be ready. Seriously, what impudence it is to refer to life long Republicans in this way, as though they were to be deterred from acting as their judgment and consciences dictate! It is, however, the spirit in which the ring has ruled the party for years, and which the people have determined to put up with no longer. To many of the signers of this true Republican call the party owes almost everything. Asking no office, they have only desired to work for principle. Carrying the party on their shoulders, they have only wished to see it fairly dealt by and not prostituted to base uses. Seeing that their desires have been disregarded, their wishes contemptuously scorned, they have resolved on a course of action that will rescue the party from the fate which otherwise must overtake it. Hence the true Republican movement, and hence the silly "organ" threatens to "kick" all engaged in it into "outer darkness." As it is a rather an extensive job, the operation had better begin very soon, and with the first name on the list!

LAST fall it cost a nominee in one of the Conventions not less than $10,000 to secure a nomination. The emoluments of the office will enable him to make a good fortune still, besides corrupting future conventions. This is true of other offices. Now it is proposed to fix for all offices proper salaries, and let the rest go into the County Treasury for the benefit of tax payers. The amount which can be saved in this way is very considerable; but great as it probably would be, and heavy as the taxes are, the greatest gain will be in removing this chief source of corruption from our local politics. Of course such a reform will continue to be, as it heretofore has been, resisted by the Central Junta. Last winter they put their foot on the proposed reform in the Legislature. These excessive salaries constitute their working capital; take them away and the Junta must go into bankruptcy. They are fighting for their political life, therefore, and probably do really regard the Reformers as "whelps," and feel like "kicking them into 'outer darkness.'" But they won't.

THE meeting in favor of Canadian independence, in Montreal on Saturday evening, was an important event, not the least significant feature of which is the declaration of the Hon. JOHN YOUNG, that the time had now come for Canada to sever her connection with Great Britain and become an independent nation; which declaration, we are assured, elicited great approbation from the people present. Mr. YOUNG is one of the foremost men among the Canadians; and we would rather think that he is acting in accordance with an understanding with the home government, than that his course is opposed to its wishes. Canadian independence is one of those questions which are described as being questions of time only. It certainly has a powerful advocate in Mr. YOUNG, who possibly perceives his opportunity in the willingness both of the Canadians and the British Government. First, independence; then annexation, as the present generation will see.

THE entire pack of the Treasury Ring, who were ousted at Harrisburg last winter, are on the track of GEORGE K. ANDERSON, who has had the temerity to announce himself for the Senatorial nomination from the Erie-Crawford District. It is undoubtedly true that the Ring owe MR. ANDERSON something for his efforts against them. Failing to find fair reasons they have invented foul ones, and these they are circulating broadcast over the district. One of MR. ANDERSON's sins is that he is not a partizan of SIMON CAMERON, whose servants have been instructed to defeat his nomination at whatever cost. SIMON, in order to secure his re-election, finds it necessary to "set up" present nominations to the State Senate. In the Ere-Crawford case, the job is a hard one, evidently.

THE confirmation of MR. AKERMAN without objection, must be gratifying to the Senate, and will, it is hoped, produce a better feeling between that body and the Executive than has at times existed. It also illustrates how unreliable are Washington rumors and predictions. Up to the latest moment it was set down as certain by those whose business it is to make predictions that the nomination would be withdrawn, because no chance existed for its confirmation. A favorable report from the Judiciary Committee, and a unanimous vote in the Senate would have resulted from nothing else than the certainty that the nomination was one "fit to be made."

THE New York *Day Book*, which may be said to fairly represent the non-progressive Democracy of the country, expresses itself in the following enlightened manner:

> "If the true, earnest and faithful Democracy will only stand by the principles of 1776, and two years later Amendments' and thus restore the Union the enemies traitors have overthrown while professing to defend it, all will be well. * * * Peace on earth, good will to men again, the Union made safe by restoration of the Republic of Washington, any and everything is possible to this young and vigorous people."

And yet there are men who believe victory possible on such a platform, which, to use no stronger expression, is an insult to the intelligence of the American people and a libel upon our civilization.

WE are glad to learn, as we do from a private source, that the House of Representatives will in all probability agree to the action of the Senate in striking the income tax from the tax law, so that it is quite likely that those who have paid their income tax this year have done it for the last time. The action of the Senate has elicited a general expression of approval, which the representatives of the people in the other end of the capitol cannot have failed to notice, evincing a strength of particular sentiment which they cannot afford to disregard. We are glad to learn that probably it will not be disregarded.

THE Ring managers and machine runners, in their desperation, have determined on attempting to gain admission to the Convention of the True Republicans, for the purpose of adjourning it without making nominations. Boasts to this effect are made, and probably there are persons equal to such an attempt. Its baseness would be no reason for not making it. But it is only necessary that the True Republicans should be on their guard. They have only to be vigilant to send in a full delegation from every district.

AN illustration or recognition of the increasing influence of newspapers, it is an interesting fact that the new Minister of Foreign Affairs in France, M. de GRAMONT, is engaged in organizing a *Bureau de la Presse* in connection with his department. Its object will be to collect the political facts reported by the foreign newspapers and to analyze every day the articles of discussion that appear in them.

WHEN the "organ," referring to the True Republican Call, says the names of Democrats are appended to it, or that the names are duplicated, it simply utters what is not true. The signers are all Republicans, and not a name is duplicated. The "organ" should stick to the job of "kicking" the signers into "utter darkness," and not stop to talk about them.

AN IMPARTIAL VIEW.

(From the Pittsburgh Chronicle.)

THE INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT.

The call which we publish to-day for a *people's* Republican Convention to meet on the 6th of July, to put in nomination the best men for Congressional, Legislative and county offices challenges attention to three features:

1. The call is addressed to the *Republicans* of Allegheny county.

2. It is signed by a large number of the *most* influential Republicans in the county.

3. The call distinctly repudiates the idea of any *split* in the party, and expressly sets forth that "Our duty is to maintain the *party* organization pure and incorruptible."

The clear and positive inference then is, that this is an movement *within* the Republican party to shake off the control of a few obnoxious politicians and secure the nominations of the best men for office at a convention called under *popular* auspices. It is in this sense that the movement is an "Independent" one. The idea that the names we see on this call are identified with a scheme for disrupting and breaking up the Republican organization is simply absurd. There is not a sensible man in Allegheny county who believes any such thing. Certainly, there is not an intelligent Democrat who lays any such flattering unction to his soul. There are scores of *conservative voters* who will support most heartily this movement, but they cannot pretend to be dead to all the terrors of the contest. The call is too plain, it is too explicit to be misunderstood. It is addressed to Republicans. It is written by Republicans. It is published by Republicans. It invites them to the regular Conventions, I hail it as the right step in reform —one that I have wished for long. Any one who was a member of last year's Convention, and has the welfare of the party at heart, will rejoice at the move.

A TWENTY FIVE YEAR VOTER OF ALLEGHENY.

THE rates of fare on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad will be reduced on and after the 11th instant as follows: To Crestline, Ohio, from $6 50 to $6—reduction $0 50. To Fort Wayne, Ind., from $9 10 to $8 25—reduction $0 85. To Chicago, Ill., from $12 40 to $11 25—reduction $1 15. To Indianapolis, from $10 40 to $9 50—reduction $0 90. To Indianapolis, from $10 40 to $9 50—reduction $0 90. To St. Louis, Mo., from $22 65 to $20 50—reduction $2 15. To Quincy, Ill., from $31 90 to $28 50—reduction $3 40. This reduction, we understand, is occasioned by the fact that of any competing line from the seaboard to the West, and when it is remembered that the Pennsylvania company, in the solidity of its construction, delivery and safety of travel, as the equipment and character of its cars, being supplied with all of the most improved contents in traveling, there is reason to believe that a very small reduction will produce a very material increase of travel will attend this popular line.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

These are important reductions to that portion of the traveling public that happens to be moving between Philadelphia and the other points named. Philadelphia is the gainer, but Cow to Pittsburgh and other considerable points on the line! We are every day expecting to be called on to publish a corresponding reduction, East and West, from Pittsburgh.

TO THOSE who take an interest in the reconstruction and progress of the late rebellious States, the following figures from the report of the Comptroller General of Georgia, will be acceptable as they indicate the wealth and importance of that Commonwealth:

Number of acres of land returned	42,582,399
Aggregate value of land	$84,877,186
Average value per acre	$2 60
Value of city and town property	$14,388,993
Amount of money and solvent debts	$24,113,977
Value of merchandise	$11,236,793
Farming and mechanical implements	$176,504
Number of hands employed	76,738
Value of stocks and all kinds	$5,188,832
Capital invested in shipping	$250,018
Capital invested in cotton factories	$2,258,948
Capital invested in iron works, &c	$476,930
Capital invested in mining	$1,248,708
Total value of property	$204,431,705

This is a falling off, compared with a similar report for the year 1859 of $460,158,170. Ten years ago the slaveholders of the State, however, footed up nearly $70,000,000.

HOT weather is the rule everywhere now. Sunday was probably the hottest. During the three previous days the heat grew in intensity. That baths should be in order, that there should be a run on the soda water fountains, that everybody should be thinking of going to try and find out what the wild waves are saying, is only to narrate that which is the normal mental condition of those who have any mental condition to cogitate with.

Place.	Degs.	Place.	Degs.
Port Hastings	76	Savannah	89
Halifax	66	Augusta	81
Burlington	82	Oswego	82
Boston	80	Buffalo	80
New York	86	Pittsburgh	74
Philadelphia	83	Chicago	84
Wilmington	85	Louisville	86
Washington	80	Mobile	82
Fort Monroe	80	New Orleans	81
Richmond	86	Key West	83
Charleston	84	Havana	83

A GOOD title for a readable publication would be: "A Complete History of the License Board of Allegheny County for four years past, with the names of the persons licensed, a description of the places they keep, what it has cost to procure said licenses over and above the regular fees, and who got the money; the increase in crime and expense thereof in consequence of the course pursued by the Commissioners; a number of murders and other crimes in detail, as the direct result; what is the probable cost to the county in excess of what it should and would be under proper Commissioners; with some account of the misery, desolation and sorrow in thousands of private families by the ruin of sons, brothers and fathers, etc., etc.; illustrated with pictures of this Machine, of the Ring, and Portraits of those who run it." Such a publication would sell beyond doubt.

A PROMINENT Kentucky Democrat has just given utterance to the following: "My friends, I never was for 'biting my own nose off for spite,' and I think this refusing negro testimony in the State courts, when you cannot deny it to them in the Federal, is very much that sort of wisdom. But let us rise above that of expediency. Is it right? Suppose some villain goes to your house and murders your or some of your family; no white witness present, but there are some reliable negroes who witness the murder; should the murderer escape? I think not. Again, a number of negroes are together, a white scoundrel comes up and shoots one or more; is he to escape unwhipt of justice? Both justice and humanity require that he should not." This shows that even stolid, stubborn, old Kentucky is not beyond the reach of logic.

THERE is a society for the suppression of crime in London; why should we not have one here? This society has seized since 1854 no less than 131,700 obscene prints, 16,322 obscene books, and 17,465 sheets of obscene songs. What band of men will do equal service against the overstocked market of manliness in New York? The Society for Preventing Cruelty to Animals needs a double fellow.—*New York Standard.*

Here "a society for the suppression of crime" is so much needed that the people are going to commence the work of reforming the principal source of crime—the County Commissioner's office. To do this they propose to turn out of power the ring that has for years run this office in their interest to the great injury of the community.

The usual number of Sunday tragedies are reported in New York. A jealous Frenchman named Jaune stabbed a young man named Joizeau in the neck, for supposed criminal intimacy with Mrs. Jaune. Thomas Sheridan, a printer, fatally stabbed a German named Daniel Letchein. James McManus fired four shots at his wife, with whom he had quarreled, one of which took effect in the back of a Mrs. Fitzgibbons, living opposite, inflicting a severe wound. The free shooter languishes in prison. In Brooklyn, Thomas McKaguhin was shot by a man named Thomas Kerrigan.

THE TRUE REPUBLICANS.

Meeting for Organization--Appointment of Committees.

THE WORK GOES BRAVELY ON.

A meeting of Republicans, invited to confer together and make arrangements for carrying out the objects set forth in the Address to the Party in Allegheny County, was held Monday afternoon.

On motion of R. B. Carnahan, Esq., John Wilson, Esq., was unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting, and Thomas M. Carnegie Secretary.

The notice of the "call" of the meeting was then read by the Secretary, after which the Chairman stated the object of